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of form, apparently entirely unexpected by the investigator, means the general discrediting of craniology, so far, at least, as the cephalic index is concerned. Somatic anthropologists who make some specialty of craniometry cannot but have an absorbing interest in Professor Boas's results; for his high reputation insures the scrupulousness of his procedure.

*The Mind of Primitive Man* is a good book to read—clear and forceful, simple in language, attractive in style, and devoid of metaphysical wanderings.

ALBERT G. KELLER.

*Hellenistic Athens: an Historical Essay.* By WILLIAM SCOTT FERGUSON, Assistant Professor of History, Harvard College. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1911. Pp. xviii, 487.)

IN ten chapters Professor Ferguson "has aimed to trace the general movement of Athenian affairs from the death of Alexander the Great in 323 B.C. to the sack of Athens by Sulla in 86 B.C." Athens had the most "eventful and individual experience" of any of the small city-states which were gradually transformed, during this period of a little more than two centuries, "into municipalities of large territorial empires". Hence this special study of her history during the transformation. The historians of Hellenism—Thirlwall, Droysen, Holm, Niese, Beloch, Susemihl, Mahaffy, and others—have dealt with Athens only incidentally, from the standpoint of the great organizing powers of the period; or with special reference to particular phases of her development. A connected history of Athens during the Hellenistic period, treating with due perspective her political, social, economic, and intellectual life, has hitherto been lacking.

The book by which Professor Ferguson supplies this lack is the outcome of thirteen years' intensive study of the Hellenistic period, and of as many learned and able papers published during this time in various places (p. 470). These papers have given him high rank among scholars of America and Europe as chronologist and epigraphist, certainly the two most essential requisites in one who would reconstruct for himself, in order to portray to others, the career of Hellenistic Athens. For the literary tradition of the Hellenistic period is provokingly fragmentary, and it is only from its inscriptions "that we obtain our knowledge of the institutions of public and social life, of the families and persons influential at particular epochs, of the religious and economic currents—in fact, of the entire inner life of the people" (p. 468). From the standpoint of chronologists and epigraphists or students of papyri—and to the latter we now owe extensive fragments of five comedies of Menander which must hereafter serve as a basis for the proper treatment of historical material found in the New Comedy—Professor Ferguson's book will leave little if anything to be desired. Particularly in what we

may call the sociologic parts of chapters III. and IX., entitled The Régime of Demetrius of Phalerum, and Athens and Delos respectively, is newly published and even still unpublished epigraphical material served up with almost bewildering profusion.

In spite of its scientific precision, and perhaps because of the unstinted wealth of new and interesting detail which it incorporates, the book is not an easy one to read. It cannot have been an easy one to write. There are long stretches of dullness in the career of Hellenistic Athens which no literary skill can make anything but dull in the portrayal, if the portrayal is a true one. Possibly Professor Ferguson would say to us, his grateful readers, what Mommsen said to the readers of the fifth volume of his *History of Rome*: "Mit Entzagung ist dies Buch geschrieben und mit Entzagung möchte es gelesen sein." Certain it is that parts of *Hellenistic Athens* must be read, if read at all, "mit Entzagung". And yet there are glowing pages, where the subject-matter glows. And nothing of vigor and clarity is lacking in the fourth chapter, entitled The Crushing of Athens between Macedon and Egypt. The picture of Athenian culture while Athens, under a government of moderates which would have won the approval of Thucydides, son of Olorus, and Theramenes, son of Hagnon, could safely coquet with Antigonus Gonatas and Ptolemy Philadelphus, is full of a tender sadness. "The universal", in sculpture, "was still potent to guide the chisel towards something with which all mankind could have sympathy, while the individual or personal came to lend its infinite variety, its co-efficient of historic interest, to the creations of the imagination". And even after the commercial importance of Athens had disappeared with her "owls", and the Muses had gone forth not from the house of the aged Philemon alone, "but from the city in which they had made their home for over two hundred years", there was still residual culture enough in the place to bring from Heracleides the Critic, in the last quarter of the third century B.C., the assurance that "Athens surpasses other cities in all that makes for the enjoyment and betterment of life, by as much as other cities surpass the country". This residual culture, too, that of the age of Eucleides, inspires Professor Ferguson to write a spirited and noble chapter (chapter VI.).

A more plentiful use of dates and sub-titles, and perhaps the insertion of these in the pages of the text as marginal insets, would doubtless remove much of the difficulty which even the professional reader will have in using the book with ease and pleasure. The printing is exceptionally correct and good. Of actual misprints, very few have been noticed: "Cadmia", page 14; "to-day", for to say, page 22; "Gonatus" for Gonatas, twice on page 115. Trifling inconsistencies, like "waggon", page 77, but "wagons", page 92; "Lycurgus' son", page 102, but "Antigonus's position", page 191, will doubtless disappear in subsequent editions. It is hard to see why "deme", page 96 and *passim*, "acme",

page 293, should have italics, while "ephebes", page 353 and *passim*, does not. The word "Atticans" should have its explanation at page 227, where it first occurs, rather than at page 262. And possibly European readers may be at some loss to understand the meaning of "the collapse of Brahminism in Athens" (p. 311).

B. PERRIN.

*The Topography and Monuments of Ancient Rome.* By SAMUEL BALL PLATNER, Western Reserve University. Second edition, revised and enlarged. (Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1911. Pp. xiv, 538.)

THOUGH only seven years have elapsed since the first edition of this handbook appeared, the need of a revision has long been felt by students of Roman topography. For, notwithstanding the fact that the most important excavations of the last twenty years were practically completed in 1904, their results were not yet fully reported and carefully examined in all their bearings. In the meantime much fruitful work has been done, and the progress of knowledge has been unusually rapid. Of this progress Professor Platner has been able to take full advantage, especially on account of the fact that for several months during which his book was in press he was in Rome and had ample opportunity to verify his conclusions in the presence of the monuments themselves. These circumstances have combined to place the new volume on a far higher plane than its predecessor in point of scientific accuracy and usefulness. In fact, it is without doubt the best guide to the topography and monuments of ancient Rome now available in English.

The author's familiarity with recent literature is seen on almost every page. For example, on page 44 ff., he gives the theory of the origin of the city recently advanced by Kornemann, Pinza, Carter, and others, though he still regards it as less probable than the traditional view which has prevailed since Varro. His discussion of the earliest remains on the Palatine (pp. 110, 131) is practically new, and his account of the Servian wall is now in harmony with the latest research. On page 142 he is inclined to accept Pinza's recent theory with regard to the site of the temple of Apollo near the west corner of the Palatine, and his mention of three doors in the front of the Basilica Aemilia (p. 196) shows recent study of the ruins themselves, inasmuch as no report of the latest excavations on that site has yet been published.

In some minor points, however, the book is still open to criticism. On page 64 there is inaccuracy in the statement about "three famous inscriptions which are built into the wall over" gates of the Aurelian wall, for only the one over the Porta Tiburtina is *in situ*, and that which was originally over the Porta Portuensis disappeared centuries ago. In his description of the round temple of the Forum Boarium on page 401,